

JAN 18 2005

-2-

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of managing grammars used in a speech recognition system, comprising:

loading a first grammar in a context-free grammar (CFG) engine;

implementing an engine-independent SR interface between the CFG engine and a speech recognition (SR) engine;

communicating words in the first grammar to the SR engine through the SR interface;

notifying the SR engine, through the SR interface, of rules in the first grammar; and

representing the rules in the first grammar to the SR engine through the SR interface;

implementing an application-independent application interface between the CFG engine and an application;

receiving from the application, through the application interface, a change indication, indicating a change to the first grammar; and

determining, in the CFG engine, whether content of a rule in the first grammar is to be changed, based on the change indication; and

if so, providing an invalidation indication to the SR engine, through the SR interface, indicating the first grammar is to be invalidated.

2. (original) The method of claim 1 and further comprising:

receiving rule queries from the SR engine through the SR interface; and

providing rule information to the SR engine, through the SR interface, the rule information enabling the SR engine to construct an internal representation of the first grammar.

-3-

3. (original) The method of claim 2 wherein providing the rule information includes providing a rule identifier, a rule level indicator indicating a level of a corresponding rule, state information representing states in the corresponding rule and transition information representing transitions in the corresponding rule.
4. (original) The method of claim 1 and further comprising:
loading a second grammar in the CFG engine; and
representing the first and second grammars to the SR engine, through the SR interface, as a single grammar.
5. (original) The method of claim 4 wherein representing the first and second grammars to the SR engine comprises:
communicating words in the second grammar to the SR engine through the SR interface;
notifying the SR engine, through the interface, of rules in the second grammar; and
representing the rules in the second grammar to the SR engine through the interface.
6. (original) The method of claim 5 wherein communicating words in the second grammar to the SR engine comprises:
communicating only new words in the second grammar, not in the first grammar, to the SR engine through the SR interface.
7. Canceled.
8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~7~~1 and further comprising:
receiving an activation input from the application, through the application interface, indicating which of the

-4-

rules are to be active; and
providing an activation indication from the CFG engine,
through the interface, to the SR engine to indicate
which of the rules are active, based on the activation
input.

9. Canceled.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~9-1~~ and further
comprising:

receiving queries from the SR engine through the SR
interface; and
in response to the queries, providing word and rule
information to the SR engine through the SR interface,
the word and rule information enabling the SR engine to
construct an internal representation of the first
grammar with the change.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~9-1~~ and further
comprising:

if the content of a rule in the first grammar is not to be
changed, but a word or rule is to be added, providing
an indication to the SR engine through the SR interface
to add the word or rule to the SR engine.

12. (original) The method of claim 1 and further comprising:
determining in the CFG engine whether the first grammar
refers to any additional grammars; and
if so, loading the additional grammars in the CFG engine.

13. (original) The method of claim 12 and further comprising:
representing the first and additional grammars to the SR
engine, through the SR interface, as a single grammar.

-5-

14. (original) The method of claim 13 and further comprising:
communicating words in the additional grammars to the SR
engine through the SR interface;
notifying the SR engine, through the SR interface, of rules
in the additional grammars; and
representing the rules in the additional grammars to the SR
engine through the SR interface.

15. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein communicating words
in the first grammar to the SR engine through the SR interface
comprises:

providing a word handle to the SR engine identifying each
word.

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